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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE SEP 27 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In re the application of:

Peter D. Harney, by Jennifer Harney

Serial No.: 09/220,398

Filed: December 24, 1998

For: *METHOD AND KITS FOR PREPARING
MULTICOMPONENT NUCLEIC ACID
CONSTRUCTS*

Group Art Unit:

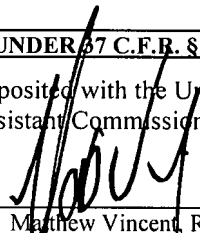
Examiner: R. Schnizer

Attorney Docket No.: VECT-P02-003
(formerly vov-003.02)#19
MB
10/2/01Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below:

September 20, 2001

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

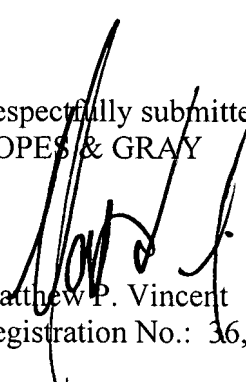

Matthew Vincent, Reg. 36,709**REQUEST FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

Applicants hereby request a Three-Month Extension of Time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a), to and including September 20, 2001 in which to respond to the Office Action mailed March 20, 2001.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account 18-1945 in the amount of \$445.00 in payment of the appropriate fee based on a small entity status. The undersigned authorizes the charging of any additional fees and crediting of any overpayment associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 18-1945. The undersigned requests any extensions of time necessary to respond. **A duplicate of this page is enclosed for that purpose.**

Ropes & Gray
One International Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
Telephone: (617) 951-7000
Facsimile: (617) 951-7050
Customer No.: 28120

Respectfully submitted,
ROPES & GRAY
Matthew P. Vincent
Registration No.: 36,709